

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 01131 251522Z

46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 EUR-12 SSM-03 DHA-02 ORM-02 AID-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 SCCT-01 OMB-01

/097 W

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R 251420Z AUG 76

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8248

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DAMSCUS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JERUSALEM 1131

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IS, JO

SUBJECT: AL FEJR REPORTS KING REASSERTING HIMSELF ON THE WEST  
BANK

1. THE LEFTISH ARABIC DAILY AL FEJR, AUG 25, LEADS WITH  
A VOP STORY CHARGING RENEWED JORDANIAN ACTIVITY TO UNDERCUT  
THE PLO ON THE WEST BANK. (WE HAVE NOT SEEN FBIS ACCOUNT.)  
FIVE-COLUMN BANNER READS: JORDANIAN DOCUMENT AGAINST THE PLO,  
ATTEMPT TO GAIN WEST BANK SIGNATURES, NATIONALISTS AFFIRM  
THEIR SUPPORT OF PLO. CITING VOP, AL FEJR REPORTS THAT  
JORDAN MINISTER OF INFORMATION ADNAN ABU AWDAAH HAS RECENTLY  
SENT MESSAGES TO A NUMBER OF WEST BANK NOTABLES ATTACKING THE  
PLO AND ASKING THEM TO VISIT AMMAN. THE JORDANIANS ARE ALSO  
REPORTED TO HAVE PREPARED A DOCUMENT, FOR WHICH THEY ARE  
SEEKING WEST BANK SIGNATORS, WHICH ASKED THE ARAB STATE TO  
BREAK WITH THE PLO, RESCIND THE RABAT SUMMIT DECISION AND  
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PAGE 02 JERUSA 01131 251522Z

CONSIDER THE "JORDAN REGIME" THE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE

OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. THE VOP BROADCAST, ACCORDING TO AL FEJR, NOTES THAT HEBRON MAYOR FAHD QAWASMI, WHO HAS RECENTLY VISITED AMMAN, HAS AFFIRMED HIS SUPPORT FOR THE PLO AS THE SOLE, LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.

2. QAWASMI'S NINE-DAY VISIT TO AMMAN AND AUDIENCE WITH KING HUSSEIN HAS BEEN NOTED BY ISRAELI MEDIA AND RECEIVED SUBSTANTIAL COVERAGE BY ARABIC PRESS. AL QUDS PRINTED FRONT-PAGE PHOTO ON AUG 19 SHOWING KING SHAKING THE MAYOR'S HAND. STORY AUG 23 IN AL QUDS REPORTS QAWASMI FOUND SUPPORT AND UNDERSTANDING OF WEST BANK PROBLEMS IN AMMAN INCLUDING PROMISES OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. PAPER ALSO REPORT HIS STATEMENT THAT THAT NO POLITICAL SUBJECTS WERE DISCUSSED IN HIS MEETING WITH THE KING.

3. ACCORDING TO ISRAELI RADIO, FORMER HEBRON MAYOR MOHAMAD ALI JA'ABARI HAS ATTACKED THE JORDANIANS FOR ANTI-PALESTINIAN STANDS THE REVERSALS WHICH PALESTINIANS HAVE SUFFERED IN LEBANON. JA'ABARI REPORTEDLY HAS ACCUSED THE KING OF TRYING TO RE-ASSERT HIS INFLUENCE ON THE WEST BANK.

4. COMMENT: THERE IS QUITE OBVIOUSLY SOME FERMENT ON THE WEST BANK. THE KING'S PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE HEBRON MUNICIPAL DELEGATION SEEMS TO US THE clearest sign of renewed JORDANIAN INTEREST IN THE WEST BANK. ALTHOUGH MUNICIPAL DELEGATIONS HAVE BEEN GOING TO AMMAN EVER SINCE THE APRIL ELECTIONS, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THAT THE KING HAS RECEIVED ONE PERSONALLY. WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION OF THE VOP CHARGES OF THE CIRCULATION OF A SPECIFIC DOCUMENT INTENDED TO TURN THE CLOCK BACK TO PRE-RABAT TIME. JA'ABARI'S CHARGES, IF ACCURATELY REPORTED, SEEM TO BE AIMED PRIMARILY AT QAWASIMI. LATTER IS SCHEDULED TO REVEAL AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL AID FROM AMMAN IN NEAR FUTURE.  
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## Message Attributes

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